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REMARKS

The present patent application contains two independent claims: claims 1 and 14. Claim 1 is directed to a method of executing a Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) session. More particularly, the method comprises steps of negotiating a PPP session for a mobile station on a first Packet Data Service Node (PDSN), creating a PPP context for the mobile station, and storing the PPP context. Afterwards, the mobile station is handed over from the first PDSN to a second PDSN. Then, the stored PPP context is retrieved, and the PPP session is resumed on the second PDSN using the retrieved PPP context.

Claim 14 is directed to a wireless communication system for providing Packet Data Services to a mobile station. For doing so, the system comprises a first PDSN engaged in a PPP session with the mobile station. A Point-to-Point (PPP) register stores the PPP context relative to the mobile station and its PPP session. A second PDSN, to which the mobile station is handing over, retrieves the stored PPP context from the PPP register, and uses it to resume the PPP session with the mobile station.

Claims 1, 3, 6-11, 14-16 and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,580,699 (hereinafter called Manning), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,651,105 (called Bhagwat).

Manning relates to a a method for updating a Radio Network (RN)-to-Packet Data Serving Node (PDSN) connection, also called R-P connection. The R-P connection is located between a serving base station and a serving PDSN. When a mobile station roams from one base station to another, a new R-P connection is requested between the newly serving base station and the PDSN, and upon completion of that new R-P connection, the previous R-P connection is released. For doing so, the PPP session status and the identity of the serving PDSN is stored either in the mobile station itself, or at the serving Mobile Switching Center/Visited Location Register. Thus when the new R-P connection is established, the new serving base station uses the PPP session status and the identity of the serving PDSN to establish the new R-P connection with the serving PDSN.

However, Manning is silent on the possibility of roaming from one serving PDSN to another PDSN, and is limited to R-P connections between different base stations and the same PDSN. Also,

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Manning is limited to storing PPP session status and not the PPP context as done in the present invention.

Bhagwat relates to a method for mobile stations to securely and seamlessly roam from one access point to another access point without disrupting an active PPP connection. More particularly, Bhagwat describes the tunneling of the PPP traffic between the newly serving access point and the previously serving access point (see column 10, lines 36-46). For doing so, Bhagwat describes that the mobile station provides to the new access point the IP address of the previous PPP server (also called access point), so that the new PPP server (also called new access point), can open up a tunnel therebetween and send the PPP traffic on that tunnel.

It should be noted that Bhagwat does not describe nor teach the storing of the PPP context, or the use of the stored PPP context to resume the PPP session with a newly serving PDSN, but rather points in a completely different direction, i.e. tunneling between the previously serving PPP server and the newly serving PPP server.

Since neither Manning nor Bhagwat teach nor describe solely or in combination the storing of the PPP context, or the use of the stored PPP contest to resume the PPP session with a newly serving PDSN, Applicants submit that the present invention is novel and patentably distinguishable from the cited prior art.

Claims 2- 13 and 15-22 which depend directly or ultimately from claim 1 or 14, while adding further limitations thereto, are also believed patentable for the same reasons provided in support of claims 1 and 14.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the present patent application is now in condition for favourable action. Should the Examiner wish to further discuss the present response or patent application, the undersigned can be reached at (514) 345-7891.

Respectfully submitted,

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